



N.O.W. News

Vol. 44 No. 2

Summer 2006

umismatists of Wisconsin



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is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock nonprofit tax exempt corporation.

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The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$5 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines

Summer 2006



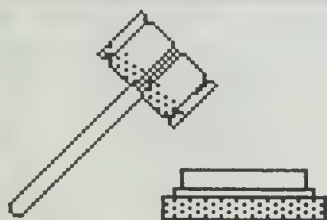
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NOW News Deadlines

February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1



President's Message by Thad Streeter

Best of summer wishes to all NOW members! I'm writing this message just prior to the Memorial Day weekend and well past my deadline. It's hard to believe that summer is already at our doorstep. Where on earth does time go? I remember when I was a kid, not only was I able to find silver coins in circulation, but time didn't seem to move at all. My friends and I had to wait for everything and time moved so s-l-o-w. What a difference a lifetime makes.

I'll give you all an update on things from my end of the table. First of all, congratulations are in order for this year's Writer's Awards. First place goes to Robert Kraft for "Civil War Storecards of Wisconsin." Second place winner is Phyllis Calkins for "Meet Bucky Badger" and third place recognition goes to Jon Stock for "Lost to History". My thanks to these three writers and all of the others who have submitted articles to NOW News. The efforts of our writers and editor make NOW News the quality publication that it is and has been over the years.

A special thanks to three organizations for donating the cash prizes -- South Shore Coin Club, Oshkosh Numismatic Research Society and the Milwaukee Numismatic Society.

Next on my list: Congratulations to Hank Thoele. Hank was selected by the NOW Board of Governors to complete the term of former Governor, Patti Finner, who resigned her post due to other commitments. Prior to being appointed to the Board, Hank

has attended many board meetings as a NOW member and as a result, has a pretty good understanding of how NOW works. I am sure that he will be a valuable resource for NOW.

Finally, I want to invite all NOW members to Fond du Lac on August 27th. Due to "one of those things" that happens from time-to-time in any organization, we will not be having a NOW show as such this year, but a NOW "event" instead. An event is not as big as a show, but bigger than a board meeting. We will take this opportunity to install officers and board members, hold the General Membership meeting and just get to visit at the coin show. Please join us at the Holiday Inn in Fond du Lac. The General Membership meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m.

That's all that I have for now. Have a fun and safe summer. Until next time, I shall remain yours in numismatics.

Thad

NOW Members

You are invited to attend
the General Membership Meeting
1:00 p.m.

August 27, 2006

at
the Fond du Lac Coin Show

Coin Show
Sponsored By The
Fond du Lac Coin Club

August 27, 2006

Holiday Inn
625 West Rolling Meadows Drive
Fond du Lac, WI

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Please Note...
New Date

Randy Miller
Bourse Chairman
920-231-6161



ANA Highlights

Milwaukee ANA '07

by Clifford Mishler

In the event you're a member of NOW or a coin club, you can still volunteer to help on one of the committees in conjunction with the 116th Anniversary Convention of the American Numismatic Association. The event is scheduled for August 8-12, 2007. To assure that all bases are covered in our pursuit of making next year's show the best in the organization's history, we will need upwards of 100 volunteers.

Decisions Made in Atlanta

A pair of stepping-stone decisions concerning the Milwaukee convention were made at the ANA Board meeting in Atlanta during the National Money Show last April. One was the formal designation of Chester Krause of Iola, founder of Numismatic News and Krause Publications, to serve in the capacity of Honorary Chairman. A 50-year ANA member, Krause joined in 1953 and holds life membership number 318.

The second formal action taken by the Board involving the 2007 ANA was the selection of a bid received from Heritage Auction Galleries to conduct the auction. Their winning bid was one of two received; it will contribute \$405,000 towards the success of the convention. Most of the ANA convention auctions over the past two decades have been conducted by the Heritage organization.

Coin Club Promotion

At last year's ANA convention in San Francisco, the Kagin's organization sponsored a new promotion -- Join a Local Coin Club. This promotion will be coming to Milwaukee in 2007, which will enable area coin clubs to have an opportunity to gather fresh faces into their organizations. Participating clubs will be required to volunteer members for joint staffing of the show booth.

Convention Theme Exhibit Category Under Consideration

A convention theme exhibit category, envisioned to encourage exhibits at the ANA convention tied to the convention theme, was provisionally authorized by the Exhibits Committee at the Atlanta show. Exhibits placed in this category would feature numismatic materials that capture the flavor of the convention theme for a given year. This competitive exhibiting category, pending formal approval at the committee's next meeting, will be inaugurated at Milwaukee ANA '07. Exhibits placed in this new category at that time would be required to demonstrate the 2007 ANA theme "Collecting Coins Captures Time".

If you would like to volunteer for one of the convention committees, please contact Bruce Benoit, P.O. Box 210064, Milwaukee, WI 53221; e-mail benwab@sbcglobal.net phone 414-282-8128 or Clifford Mishler, P.O. Box 316, Iola, WI 54945-0316; e-mail, mish@athenet.net; phone 715-445-5050.

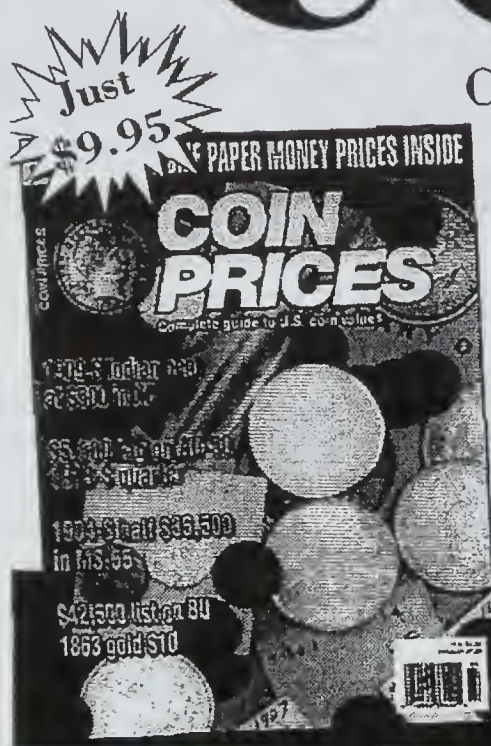
Volunteers are needed for committees:

- Activities
- Banquet/Luncheon
- Exhibits
- Hospitality/Greeting
- Message Center
- Numismatic Theater
- Pages
- Patrons
- Pre-Registration
- Registration
- Scout Program
- Setup/Teardown

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Coin Club News

Chippewa Valley Coin Club

Members promoted coin collecting to people in their community. Their April meeting was held at the Renaissance Festival at the South Middle School. Display tables were set up and members promoted a hobby that opens doors of a higher education and each new door leads to new places, saving money, bank accounts, CDs bullion, credit cards, stocks, bonds and real estate. Ultimately, the knowledge we're left with is the true value of a dollar and how to use that knowledge wisely.

Madison Coin Club

The April meeting consisted of a short wrap-up about their successful spring show and members began planning for next year's show, which will be the club's 75th anniversary. They will also be hosting NOW's annual show and will issue a wooden nickel to commemorate the event. Members are encouraged to submit designs for the wooden nickel.

Racine Numismatic Society

Club members held a successful spring show and plans are already being made for next year's show, which will be held February 25th. The club recently voted to become Life Members of Numismatists of Wisconsin and Central States.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

by Bruce Benoit



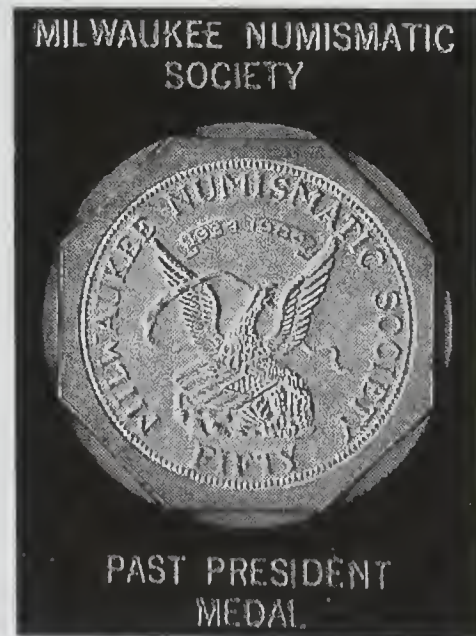
Milwaukee Numismatic Society President, Bruce Benoit, presents Art Petri with a Past President's medal.

On March 16th MNS Past President, Art Petri was recognized and awarded with a medal from current President, Bruce Benoit.

Mr. Petri served on the Board of Directors of our Milwaukee organization for many years. After his 2-year term as President (2004-2005), he was then elected to the position of Secretary.

The medal is designed after the U.S. \$50 gold slug. A variation of the medal was originally struck for the MNS 50th anniversary in 1984. It is octagonal in shape and consists of satin 24k gold over silver.

The medal is housed in a plastic holder and also has a prop stand for protection when displaying the piece.



The obverse design depicts an eagle with shield and ribbon in its beak, 1934-1984 on a banner and "Milwaukee Numismatic Society Fifty" in a circular pattern around the eagle. The reverse has a circular pattern of lines with a rectangle in the middle for engraving purposes.

"Our Society greatly appreciates the dedication that Art continues to devote to the Milwaukee Numismatic Society" quoted Bruce.

Art is deeply involved with many organizations in the Milwaukee area and has been N.O.W. member #1640 since 1965. On April 2nd Art was added to the Honor Roll as the Guest of Honor at the Greater Milwaukee Area Distinguished Philatelist Appreciation Dinner.

* * *

Ozaukee Coin Club

In an attempt to promote their club and hobby, President Nels Olsen attended the "Special Interest Day" at the Westlawn Elementary School in Cedarburg. He presented several sessions on coin collecting to students and felt there was a lot of untapped potential interest at the middle school level because kids at that age begin to set long-term collecting goals.



Fred Dickfoss #329

J.W. "Wes" Wittig #137

by Gene Johnson

Word came recently from Racine that long time NOW member, Fred Dickfoss passed away on April 23rd. Dick joined NOW in 1965. My trips to Racine have become fewer as age crept up on me and my last chat with Fred was at the Iola NOW show, when together we recalled the early days of our state organization. A nice man and a credit to our hobby. Bruce Benoit, President of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society recalled that Fred was a true numismatist who always had something interesting to say at their club meetings, the trips to coin shows that they shared and that a lot of friends in the Milwaukee and Racine area clubs will miss him.

* * *

Oldest Member of NOW Dies

by Gene Johnson

J.W. "Wes" Wittig of Wausau (NOW Member #1994) and long-time Wisconsin Valley Coin Club member, who was active in the club up to his 100th birthday, left the numismatic community on February 8th. Wes was 102 years of age.

Wittig held club membership #137 in the Wisconsin Valley Club, served as club president in 1970, and designed the Wausau NOW convention medal in 1971, where he served as chairman.

Scholarly and soft spoken, Wes was respected for his knowledge of the U.S. Series that he collected.

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Coins & Currency of the Middle East

What are those coins that soldiers bring home from the Middle East? Men and women returning from war and other conflicts have brought home a steady stream of coins and currency. For the soldiers, their families and collectors, the money represents much more than keepsakes and pocket change.

For those wanting more information about the coins and currency, KP Books announced the recent release of "Coins and Currency of the Middle East" edited by Tom Michael and George Cuhaj.

This descriptive, full-color reference offers identification and collector values for the coins, paper money and other collectibles soldiers may have brought home. Each chapter contains an informative introduction, plenty of color photos of soldiers interacting with foreign civilians and the front and back images of the coins and currency.

Pogs, medals, tokens, books, comic books, propaganda leaflets and personal mementos are also covered. Various resources supply conflict timelines, maps and numerical and date systems.

Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Somalia, Pakistan and Iran are among the countries covered in this 272-page book which includes 300+ color photos and sells for \$17.99.

Michael and Cuhaj work for the numismatic book department at KP Books. Michael is the market analyst for the "Standard Catalog of World Coins" and Cuhaj is editor of the "Standard Catalog of World Paper Money". They live in Wisconsin and are available for interviews. "Coins & Currency of the Middle

East" is available from major bookstores and from KP Books 800-258-0929 or website www.krausebooks.com.

A Guide Book of Flying Eagle and Indian Head Cents

by Richard Snow

This is the 6th installment in Whitman Publishing's Bowers series and is a complete source for all the information the collector needs to fully enjoy these popular coins. This reference is a culmination of 20 years of study by the foremost authority on these series, Richard Snow.

You'll find a wealth of information regarding the history, grading and pricing as well as key collecting tips for each date. Information never published anywhere is revealed for the first time in a clear and concise format. Rick's research is enhanced further by a sweeping and engaging overview by noted numismatist and author David Bowers. The Guide Book features full-color images throughout with representatives of the fabulous Stewart Blay collection highlighting each date. Additional sections by Snow include a complete biography of the coins' designer, James B. Longacre, as well as a discussion on detecting counterfeits and altered coins, plus a study of market prices since 1947.

The book was released in April, selling at a special pre-publication price of \$19.95 plus shipping/handling. Contact Richard Snow, Eagle Eye Rare Coins 866-323-2646 or visit their website at www.indiancent.com.

"Scripaphily" The Art of Finance

by Keith Hollender

Many years have passed since the first book on Scripaphily was published and in that time the numbers of those interested in financial history and the collecting of old bonds and stock certificates has grown. "Scripaphily" is the name given to describe the collecting of

original financial documents. This book not only assists the collector in getting started and building a collection, it also provides a synopsis of world-wide financial history, a subject much neglected despite the huge growth in the financial services industry over recent years.

The 157-page book's coverage of events is intended to encourage both Scripophilists and those interested in financial history by bringing alive the original documents on which the subject is based. The book is divided into 3 sections -- the first provides some general background to the subject and its historical origins; the second covers the main collecting themes by country and subject and the third offers advice on building, maintaining, valuing and ultimately selling a collection.

Subjects covered range from the origins of share trading in Mesopotamia, almost 4,000 years ago, through the growth and financing of railways during the last century.

The hard-cover book sells for \$29.95 and can be purchased at book stores or by calling Jim's Coins (608-233-2118).

Double Eagle The Epic Story of the World's Most Valuable Coin

Numismatists are often historians, but historians are not always numismatists. The two share a love of the past, an insatiable curiosity and the need to connect the present to the past through a tangible and understandable story. Alison Frankel is neither. However, this senior writer at The American Lawyer brilliantly assumes both these roles in this book (ANA library catalog No. GB13.F7). Written as a narrative, the story proves that the truth is often stranger than fiction.

As Frankel explains, "For most coins, the chain of history is utterly random. No so for the 1933 Double Eagle, which was special from the moment it was minted and has become ever more extraordinary with every addition to its story. The 1933 Double Eagle doesn't merely reflect emotions, it inspires them -- outsized passion, greed, and yearning. It's just a coin, just one cold ounce of gold fashioned into a small round object, but it's grand, sprawling opera of a story is priceless.

Those in the numismatic world are familiar with the nuts and bolts of the 1933 double eagle (gold \$20) story: the collaboration between President Theodore Roosevelt and famed sculptor Augustus Saint Gaudens, the demonetization and call for the surrender of gold in 1933, resulting in the meltdown of all newly minted 1933 double eagle coins. The 1953 sale of Egyptian King Farouk's numismatic collection contained the only authorized specimen of the coin, and the 1996 resurfacing of the famed piece in the United States climaxed in the memorable 2002 Sotheby's sale, where the gavel came down at \$6,600,000, the highest price ever paid for a single coin. What we don't know, and what Frankel has meticulously researched, are details of the events that took place between transactions and the personalities involved. She brings together the seemingly unrelated series of world events that ultimately shaped the destiny of the coin and the fate of its owners.

Every coin has a story to tell, but most are not quite as entertaining nor as interesting. This 306-page softcover book with a full bibliography is published by W.W. Norton & Company and became available May 15th.

* * *



British Royal Mint Strikes First Ever Lenticular Medal



April 21st marked the 80th birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. In celebration of this significant occasion, the British Royal Mint has, for the very first

time, used revolutionary technology - Imotion - to produce a uniquely magnificent lenticular medal.

The medal has been commissioned by the Jersey Heritage Trust to celebrate the island's 800-year allegiance to the crown of England. The long connection between the Channel Islands and Britain goes back to the time of William the Conqueror, whose army was the last to invade Britain in the year 1066, at the famous Battle of Hastings.

The obverse of this brilliant medal features the Queen's portrait. Artist Chris Levine took more than 200 official photographs during two sittings at Buckingham Palace. Working with holographer Rob Munday the images have been combined to produce the first 3D portrait of a reigning monarch. Using a moving camera, a sequence of up to 400 images is recorded, and by cleverly combining the resultant images of strikingly

realistic three-dimensional illusion can be created.

The reverse design of the medal is attractive in its own right. Featuring designer Harry Brockway's depiction of St. Edward's Crown together with Lion and Unicorn supporters from the Royal Arms, the design adds an air of heraldic interpretation to the medal. The inscription QUEEN ELIZABETH encompasses the upper half of the Arms, while the figure "80" stands proudly between the two supporters. The date 2006 appears on the obverse below the portrait of the Queen.

The medal has been produced in 3 alloys: gold, silver and nickel-brass. Only 200 22-karat (916.7Au) gold medals have been authorized for worldwide distribution. Each gold medal is housed in an elegant presentation case and accompanied by a numbered Certificate of Authenticity, personally signed by Chris Levine. Each has a diameter of 45 mm and weighs 87.1 grams.

The sterling (.925Ag) silver Lenticular Medal is limited to 5,000 pieces. The nickel-brass edition of this medal is offered with mintages of 10,000 and each is housed in a velour presentation case accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity. The diameter, common to all three versions of the medal, is 45 mm, while the weight is 59.7 grams. Prices of the Queen's 80th Birthday Lenticular Medals are:

Gold medal	call
Silver medal	\$99.50
Nickel-Brass medal	\$49.95

Orders and inquiries should be addressed to the British Royal Mint 800-221-1215. Website: <http://royalmint.com>.

* * *



\$10,000 Bill Too Hot for Bank to Handle

[Green Bay Press article
submitted by Tom Fruit]

All the big money left town. The Chase Bank, formerly Bank One, in downtown Green Bay shipped 15 rare large-denomination bills -- including a \$10,000 bill-- to its corporate archives in New York for safer keeping.

The \$10,000 bill bears the image of Salmon P. Chase, a former U.S. senator and treasury secretary in President Lincoln's Cabinet, for whom the bank was named.

Bills larger than \$100 are rare because they were last printed in 1945 and haven't been issued since 1969. The bills at the Chase branch at 220 S. Adams Street were printed in 1934.

The \$10,000 bill was discovered in the safety deposit box of a bank customer when the woman died 20 years ago. Her family exchanged the currency at face value and the bank stored the bill in a plastic sleeve to protect it.

But bank officials decided the archives at the corporate office of JP Morgan Chase in New York were a better place for the bills and shipped them there by armored truck last February. A Chase spokesman in Chicago said the bank learned that there are no \$10,000 bills in the Federal Reserve, with all remaining bills apparently in private collections.

Jean Elliott, director of the JP Morgan archives said the bank hopes to eventually create a money museum that would enable the public to view the rare bills.

* * *

Nuisance or Necessity?

[Desert Sun article
submitted by Gene Johnson]

Consider the penny... that copper-colored, Lincoln-mugged coin that graces clerk-side change cups nationwide. Are they a fiscal nuisance? Do we like them? Let the debate rage. However, a company in the coin business polled more than 1,000 U.S. adults for views on the penny. We are, it seems, a people of mixed thoughts about this smallest of our currencies.

More than 27% said they found little value in pennies and don't plan to use them. But 66% said they prefer the government keep pennies circulating as legal tender. And most of us -- 84% of the polled women and 74% of the men said they still stop to pick up errant pennies spied on the ground.

The data is from Coinstar Inc., a Bellevue, Washington based company that makes coin-counting machines.

* * *

An Amazing Piece of History

[Antique Roadshow Magazine]

A Centennial-year proof set of 14 coins was sold at Doyle, New York in March. Back in 1876, the coins in the set added up to \$43.64. Now in 2006, the set fetched \$548,000. Supposedly, there were no more than 45 Centennial proof sets assembled 130 years ago. To have a set in its original presentation case makes it all the more rare. According to Doyle's catalog, "a complete 1876 proof set, with gold, has not appeared on the market in generations."



High Gold Prices Spark Buying and Selling

With gold reaching a 26-year high, buyers and sellers throughout the country have taken note and are trading briskly in the precious metal. Small investors are cashing in their holdings while buyers are scrambling in hopes that prices will continue to rise.

Gold hit \$728 an ounce last month, up from \$525 in January. "Although gold dipped recently, you're probably going to see it crest over \$800 an ounce" said Mark Hermanson, co-owner of Capital City Coins & Jewelry in Monona, Wisconsin. "There hasn't been much interest in gold and silver bullion. Three years ago when gold was \$260 an ounce you couldn't get anyone to even look at it. Now that it's over \$700 an ounce, everyone's interested in buying and they want a deal."

Analysts say investors are focusing on inflationary fears brought on by rising interest rates and on the possible impact of surging prices of crude oil and industrial metals.

Hermanson's father recalled in the early 80s when gold was over \$800 an ounce it was crazy... investors were selling, hoping to cash in and reap huge profits. But this time high prices are encouraging some investors to buy. Some people have a lot of confidence in the market and most are holding what they have and not thinking about selling yet. Others might be buying as a hedge against the dollar.

But Cheryl Hermanson, third owner in the business, warns that small investors should be careful. They're buying high and it's probably not a good idea for individuals to invest in short-term speculation unless they're really market savvy.

The most directly affected by rising gold prices will be jewelry retailers.

[Source: Wis.State Journal]

Don't Flush

A retiree in northern Germany flushed about \$18,000 down the toilet, believing the old bank notes were worthless.

Police said officials were alerted by a blocked pipe in the northern city of Kiel. Investigators then discovered that the retiree had reported a blocked pipe at his house the same day.

They visited the slightly bewildered man at his apartment and he confirmed that he had flushed the money away. The 64-year old was of the opinion that mark notes no longer had any value.

Euro notes and coins replaced 12 national currencies in 2002. Europeans can still exchange the old money at their central banks.

[Wisconsin State Journal]



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Coin Glass

During the last half of the 19th century, pressed or pattern glass was popular. Many designs, including fruit, flowers, animals, people and geometrics, were made into mold-pressed glass tableware. These pieces were made in clear, as well as colored glass.



The covered bowl shown here was once part of a 17-piece berry set. The pattern is known as American Coin, but also has been referred to as frosted coin or silverage.

The original molds were created by Central Glass, a company based in Wheeling, West Virginia. Shortly thereafter, Central joined U.S. Glass in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and the pattern was made for only 6 months in 1892. Treasury agents shut production down, saying that the molds replicating U.S. coins were illegal.

This was the only pressed-glass pattern to preserve the likenesses of 6 different U.S. coins -- the half dime, dime, 20¢ piece, quarter, half-dollar and dollar.

Through the years, U.S. coin glass has been reproduced extensively. Fostoria made colored examples in the 1970s.

When new in 1892, the berry set cost under \$7. Today, due to the rarity, this covered serving bowl is worth \$450-\$550.

[source: Reminisce magazine]

Shell Money

by Phyllis Calkins #99 L

Dentalium is the scientific name for these slender little "tusk shells." Indians called them "money beads" and coastal whites say "tusk shells", and they do look like tiny white tusks.

Their real virtue, however, was like that of gold. They were hard to get and the supply was limited because they were found only in the deep water of Vancouver Island. The Nootko went out in canoes and laboriously fished them up, then they peddled them up and down the coast. Even the Indians of northern California imported their shell money all the way from Vancouver Island.

We have spoken of shell money because that was the common term, but it's not really accurate... nor, by the way, is "wampum" for that means the clamshell token system of some eastern Indians.

Dentalium was, indeed used as a medium of exchange, but so were skins, slaves and blankets. The shells were strung in lengths of about 6 feet long. The fine, 2" tusks which were the most valuable ran about 40 to a string; smaller ones ran 60. One string was worth a slave.

The Coos Indians, far from the source of supply, strung their shells in short lengths of 10. Still they were valued accordingly and Indians longing to be rich would dream of strings of Dentalium.

High relief imposed on dentalium shells by strips of snake skin made them more desirable to the California Indians, but failed to increase the value of the shell. The Karuks etched intricate designs on the small shells to give them a value as money but only the large shells were accepted by the other tribes as currency.



continued on p. 27

Colorado Quarter



The third commemorative quarter dollar coin released in 2006 honors Colorado, and is the 38th coin in the United States Mint's 50 State Quarters Program.

The first strike ceremony for the Colorado quarter was held May 24th, setting the stage for the official release of the coin later this month.

The Colorado quarter depicts a sweeping view of the state's rugged Rocky Mountains with evergreen trees and a banner carrying the inscription "Colorful Colorado". The coin also bears the inscriptions "Colorado" and "1876".

Colorado's Rocky Mountains are home to some of the nation's most majestic natural wonders. Among these, rising approximately 10,000 feet from the valley floor in north-west Colorado, Grand Mesa is the largest flat-top mountain in the world and is home to more than 200 lakes and many miles of scenic hiking trails.

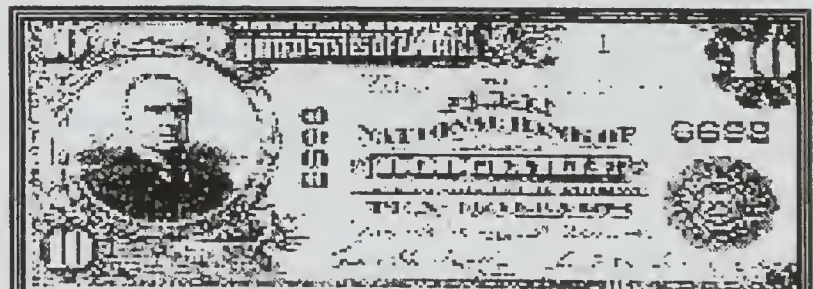
Colorado was admitted into the Union on August 1, 1876, becoming our nation's 38th state. With statehood gained less than one month after the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Colorado is nicknamed the "Centennial State."

The Colorado Commemorative Quarter Advisory Commission was formed by an Executive Order issued by Governor Bill Owens. Colorado's First Lady, Frances Owens, served as Commission Chair and design narratives were accepted from citizens. From more than 1,500 submissions accepted by the Commis-

sion, five concepts were forwarded to the United States Mint.

The sculptor-engravers of the Mint and artists in the United States Mint's Artistic Infusion Program developed the candidate designs from the narratives provided and the designs were returned to Colorado in May of 2005. Governor Owens announced "Colorful Colorado" was his recommendation for the Colorado commemorative quarter dollar. The Department of the Treasury approved the design on July 20, 2006.

Four other design concepts were considered during the final selection process. They were "Mesa Verde" featuring Mesa Verde National Park with cliff dwellings; "10th Mountain Division Birthplace," depicting a soldier/skier of the famed United States Army Division that originated in Colorado; "The Centennial State," which featured a stylized letter "C" entwined with a mountain columbine flower; and the Rocky Mountains and "Pikes Peak" featuring the gold rush slogan "Pikes Peak or Bust" and a prospector's pick and shovel.



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(Trades also considered)

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Baby Doe Strikes Silver in Colorado

by Tom Fruit NOW #15 & TAMS #11

Colorado's population exploded from 40,000 to nearly 200,000 between 1870 and 1880 as word of the gold and silver discoveries spread around the world.

H.A.W. Tabor opened a grocery store in 1878 in Leadville, was chosen Mayor, Treasurer, Postmaster and eventually Governor of Colorado.

He made a fortune in grubstaking poor miners, providing food and equipment in exchange for a one-third interest in any mine they discovered. Tabor's wealth multiplied as he bought more and more silver mines with the grubstaking shares.

Ulysses S. Grant was guest of honor at a celebration of the arrival of the Denver-Rio Grande Railroad. While attending the festivities, Tabor noticed a beautiful young blonde at a Leadville restaurant that he frequented. He invited her to his table and met Baby Doe, the daughter of an Oshkosh, Wisconsin tailor. She had come to Colorado with her husband to make their fortune. Unfortunately, her husband ended up making \$4 a day as a miner.

Baby Doe dreamed of expensive clothes, fun, excitement and luxury. She set out to land the richest man in Colorado. H.A.W. Tabor couldn't have fallen harder had he stumbled into the open shaft of the Little Pittsburgh Mine. He set up Baby Doe as his mistress in hotels in Leadville and Denver and eventually married her. President Chester A. Arthur was the guest of Honor. Baby Doe was married with a \$90,000 diamond necklace around her neck, then took a private \$5,000 train trip with her husband to Washington. Tabor spent \$300,000 during the month in Washington trying to buy political favors.

It's interesting to note that of all the silver produced in the Colorado mines during the 1878 and 1921, the only year that the Denver Mint struck silver dollars was 1921. Morgan dollars were not produced between 1904 and 1921.

The Fall issue of NOW News told the rest of this story...

"For 15 years the couple lived a life of luxury, but after the country switched to the gold standard, they lost everything. Tabor died in poverty in 1899.

Although Baby Doe could have remarried, she spent the remaining 36 years of her life living in the storage shack of the Matchless Mine -- a silver producer once the source of her wealth. She was found frozen on the floor of the shack in 1935. All that was left of the Tabor fortune were some bolts of cloth, a tea service and some jewelry."

[Bibliography: Men to Match My Mountains by Irvng Stone 1956]

* * *

In 1852, at the height of the California Gold Rush, there was plenty of gold in the form of dust and nuggets, but hardly any U.S. coins to spend.

People used Mexican reales, rupees from India or any other money that made its way into the area. Private mints sprang up, offering to convert raw gold into bars and coins.

Some quarter dollar gold coins were so tiny you would need 84 of them to make an ounce; the dollar coins were smaller than a shirt button.



SKELTON

By Gene Johnson
105L

While spending the Wisconsin winter in warm and sunny Palm Springs, California, a nice little historic token turned up along with a dandy "old west" story that accompanied it.

Western state ghost towns are much more common than they are in Wisconsin, and Nevada has more than most other western states due to precious metal mining, which at site, was often short-lived in duration.

Wisconsin's Civil War era lead mine towns have proven to be a bit more permanent, but the number of old lumber camp towns in Wisconsin have vanished or changed names. Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin Rapids, and Presque Isle, each with three name changes, seems to be about as "wild" name-wise as we ever became in our state.

Skelton, Nevada, the location name on the token, is the town's fourth post office name, and not the last! How is this for a mind boggling set of community name changes?

Cottonwood	1869-1870
Dry Creek	1870-1875
Mound Valley	1875-1884
Skelton	1884-1914
Hylton	1914-1918
Jiggs	1918 to date

Unlike most early token coinage, particularly those used in saloons, this little gem has a personal touch... the saloon owner's daughter!

Responding to an inquiry by Agnar Wahlberg, a veteran California numismatist, the daughter wrote:

"Dear Sir:

Being Albert Hankin's daughter, I will try to answer your questions. He came to Jiggs (it was then known as Mound Valley) and bought the Moody ranch in 1902. Had three children at the time; also had five more as the years passed.

In 1902 he bought the hotel in Skelton and in 1916 he built a new brick hotel which still stands that my family owns today. On December 18, 1918 the post office officially became "Jiggs", a comic character named by one of his children, and has remained that way ever since.

The name of Skelton was named in 1881 and remained for 30 years and was changed to Hylton and remained that way until it became Jiggs. Skelton was named by postmaster (at the time) Paddock, in honor of his mother's surname. The town has been in existence since 1866.

Albert Hankin bought the (Hylton) store in 1916, operated it until it burned (sic) down. After (he) ran a small store in the saloon which he owned at the time. He passed away in 1922 in San Francisco. The ranch was run by his sons until 1946 when it was sold."

Mrs. Ernest Markley

Remember the "Maggie & Jiggs" cartoons?

Perhaps the most interesting part of this narrative is the name "Jiggs". Only the old-timers in NOW will recall the daily newspaper comic strip "Bringing Up Father." Cartoonist George McManus conceived the strip featuring Maggie and Jiggs in the year 1913. Filled with Irish stereotypes like Dinty Moors



saloon, and corn beef and cabbage, it featured fat little Jiggs, and his domineering wife, Maggie. The strip syndicated by King Features, ran into the 1940-1950 era.

To Midwesterners, it may seem a little crazy to name a town after a comic strip character, but perhaps the aboriginal (Indian) names in Wisconsin are viewed about the same way by the Nevada folks.

Skelton Nevada Token

The Hankin token is recorded in the current Nevada trade check book, one of three pieces listed from this little town.

The token is dated by the town's name



It has a catalog value of \$35 and has been extensively researched by western exonomists.

I was able to obtain it only because it had been held by a lady who was a personal friend of Red Skelton (and had kept it for that reason).

Along with the beautiful sunshine in Palm Springs, this token find was one of the highlights of our winter of 2005-06..

* * *

Law Allows for Coin Melt Ban

In a Numismatic News article, David Ganz, points out "Melting, treating or exporting the U.S. one-cent coin - or nickle, older silver coins or any other piece of American coin or currency - though legal, remains just one step away from prohibition. The secretary of the Treasury has the right, by issuing a regulation, to prohibit melting of these coins and to impose criminal penalties on those who ignore it.

The last time a melting ban was imposed was in April, 1974, more than 30 years ago, when the Nixon Administration's Treasury Chief William E. Simon issued orders as part 94 of Title 31 of the Code of Federal Regulations. It also had been used to prevent melting of silver coins during the coin crisis of the 1960s. Some 73 years ago it was used to ban gold coin melting.

What then, would cause the Treasury to reimpose the ban? Most likely a serious threat to circulation of cent and nickel coinage, both of which cost more to make than their respective face values.



by David Calkins #1500

William George Fargo was born in Pompey, NJ on May 20, 1818 and became an American leader in long-distance express services. He began carrying mail over a 30-mile route when he was only 13 years old.

With the discovery of gold in California in 1848, there was speculation that the west would soon need better transportation and banking services. In an era before railroads, their speculation proved accurate.

An express company was like a cross between the Gray Hound Bus Company, the U.S. Postal Service, and an Armored Car Company. The expresses were responsible for the rapid transport of people, the delivery of mail, packages and governmental documents, as well as the transport of

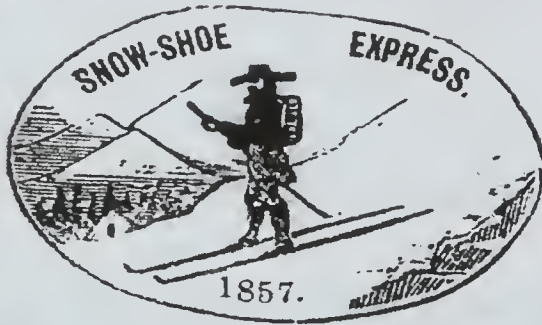
At first the firm concentrated on banking and shipping gold eastward by sea, but its operations soon expanded to include private mail service and the shipment of valuables.

[illegible]



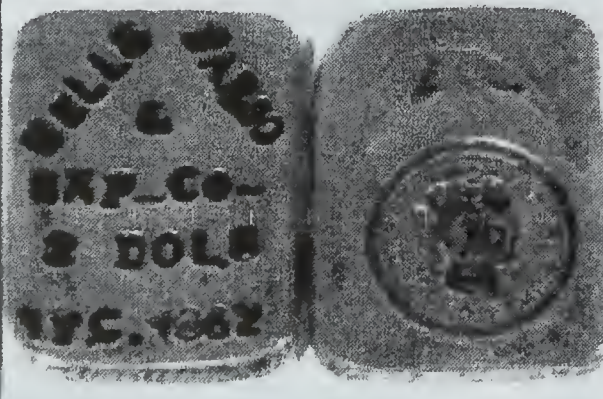
Dog Express

John
"Snowshoe"
Thompson
traveled across
the mountains
on his skis.



During this time American Express was assigned to the east, while the Wells Fargo & Co. was given all the business west of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. Wells Fargo & Co. Bank of San Francisco offered various banking services.

They bought and sold gold as well as paper bank drafts and notes that were held to be just as good as gold, but were easier to transport.



Wells Fargo silver bullion assay bar dated 1862.

By 1859 they had established 126 branches on the west coast and expanded operations into the Nevada mining country. Wells Fargo had become the primary link between the isolated far west and the rest of the nation.

Competition From Ruthless Ben Holladay

Six foot two, powerfully built, and almost insatiably ambitious, Ben Holladay earned this "tribute" from a rival: "Energetic, untiring, unconscionable, unscrupulous and wholly destitute of honesty, morality or common decency." He owned a saloon, a packing firm, and a distillery in Missouri and first achieved prominence in the freight business through his friendly contacts with the Mormons. During the Mexican War he carted supplies to the Army and made a killing by manipulating War Department contracts.

Finding his chance to become the number one man in the freighting business blocked by Russell, Majors & Waddell, Holladay began weaving a web to entrap the firm into selling out to him. He sold animals to Russell, Majors & Waddell on credit, letting them run up big bills, then loaned Russell money to start the ill-fated Pony Express. Then as chief creditor, he took over the bankrupt firm. After years of feuding with Ben Holladay and his empire, Wells Fargo bought Holladay's vast empire for \$1.8 million.

From 1862 to 1866 William Fargo was Mayor of Buffalo. In the 1870s he was president both of Wells Fargo & Company and of American Express.

Wells Fargo Bank Started as a Stagecoach

I hadn't realized that the Wells Fargo Bank originally started as a stagecoach Mail & Package Delivery Service and Gold Transport Company.

As harsh as the trip might seem in our day and age, the stagecoach service was by far the most popular form of transcontinental transportation that was available. It was fast -- it took 22-25 days to get across the country by stagecoach. It could take up to 3 to 4 months to travel by boat from New York to San Francisco because the trip sailed

around the horn of South America. It could take three months and a 90-mile mountainous portage across the malaria infested jungle at the Isthmus of Central America. And the stagecoach easily would beat out the Conestoga wagon, which could average at least a scant 15 miles a day.

Westward bound passengers and packages rode a train as far as they could, then transferred to a "Concord" coach, which was built by the Abbot-Downing Company of New Hampshire.

The 2,818 mile trek was covered in a 3-week bone-cracking marathon of a ride, which averaged the hair-raising speed of 5 to 6 miles an hour.

A team of four to six horses pulled the coach in stages of 10-12 miles before being replaced with a fresh team, hence the name "Stagecoach".

It took only 4 to 6 minutes to change a team of horses, during which passengers could stretch their legs, use the out-house or get some bad coffee and beans, which was the staple diet consumed by both crew and passengers alike. The travelers rode like this up to 20 hours each day and covered 117 to 125 miles before stopping at a tavern or roadhouse at night.

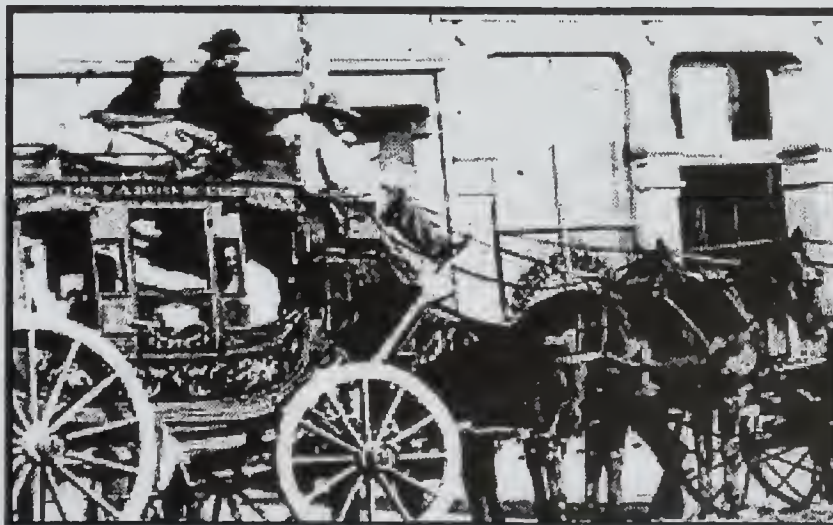
Stagecoaches Had Rules

The following passenger rules were posted in each stagecoach:

- Abstinence from liquor is requested, but if you must drink... share the bottle. To do otherwise, makes you appear selfish and unneighborly;
- If ladies are present, gentlemen are urged to forego smoking cigars and pipes as the odor of same is repugnant to the gentler sex. Chewing tobacco is permitted, but spit with the wind, not against it;

- Gentlemen must refrain from the use of rough language in the presence of ladies and children;
- Buffalo robes are provided for your comfort in cold weather. Hogging robes will not be tolerated and offenders will be made to ride with the driver;
- Don't snore loudly while sleeping or use your fellow passenger's shoulder for a pillow; he or she may not understand and friction may result;
- Gents guilty of unchivalrous behavior toward a lady passenger will be put off the stage and it's a long walk back. A word to the wise is sufficient;
- Firearms may be kept on your person for use in emergencies. Do not fire them for pleasure or shoot at wild animals as the sound riles the horses;
- In the event of runaway horses, remain calm. Leaping from the coach in panic will leave you injured, at the mercy of the elements, hostile Indians and hungry coyotes;
- Forbidden topics of conversation are stagecoach robberies and Indian uprisings.

According to the Museum's curator, as many as 18 people would crowd onto a stagecoach as it traveled long and hard over the vast treeless plains, the jagged mountain passes, through the scorching deserts and the rushing rivers. They were going from the heavily populated east to the promises of the gold fields and the free lands of the west.



For the cost of a \$200 one-way ticket, the average passenger was guaranteed only 15 inches of sitting space, whether they sat inside the coach, up front with the driver (the best seat on the coach) or up on top of the mailbags or luggage cases perched on the top of the coach. Depending on the inclemency of the elements, the number of days into the trip, and even

the amount of beans and coffee, which were consumed at the last stop, it was a role of the dice as to which spot would be the most comfortable. If it was rainy and cold, passengers were better off inside where it was dry and somewhat warmer. At times, being outside was better, even if it meant sitting on top of the lumpy mail bags or on the hard travel cases. At least up there your fellow passenger's elbows and knees weren't constantly assaulting you with each bump.

The extremes of heat and cold, the constant dust and mud, the bad food, the monotony and boredom, the occasional Indian, the physical exhaustion, the lack of sleep, and the motion sickness all combined to make a long, grueling and miserable trip that seemed to take a lifetime.



**Wells Fargo
Treasure Boxes
carried the most
valuable assets
of the west**

The weather and terrain weren't the only source of discomfort or danger that confronted the coach. Wells Fargo's green treasure boxes carried the most valuable assets of the west -- gold dust, gold bars, gold coins, legal papers, checks and drafts. In 1858 Wells Fargo handled over \$58 million in gold bullion in California alone. These sturdy boxes of Ponderosa pine, oak and iron were more prized by highwaymen and bandits than anything else on the stage and the real security for these treasure boxes came not from the box itself, but from the rough and rugged men who guarded the stage and the box -- the Wells Fargo shotgun messengers.

Outlaws took advantage of the vast distances and the isolation of the frontier life, whether on the plains, mountains or deserts. These conditions demanded long and unprotected lines of transportation to move the goods, people and money, which road agents (stage

robbers and train robbers exploited. Black Bart (Charles Boles, 1830-1917) held up Wells Fargo stages and eluded California law officers for more than 8 years before being caught and sent to prison. If thieves were foolhardy enough to try and steal a treasure box in transit, they'd find themselves staring down the barrel of a sawed-off shotgun. This gave rise to the phrase "riding shotgun".

**Wells Fargo
Stages**



Carriage builder J. Stephens Abbot and master wheelwright Lewis

Downing built the famed stagecoaches at their factory in Concord, NH. They perfected the design and the unique frame on these coaches was the suspension. Instead of steel springs, the coach body rested on leather "thoroughbraces" made of strips of thick bullhide. This feature spared the horses from jarring and gave the coach a gentle rocking motion, leading Mark Twain to call it "an imposing cradle on wheels." Each coach was given a number, weighed about 2500 pounds and cost \$1100.

*Famous among
Wells Fargo drivers
was "Old Charley"
Purkhurst. When
he died in 1879,
Charley was found to
be a woman.*



Business Began to Wane

As the reach of the railroad stretched across the country in its East/West trek, the fortunes of Wells Fargo Express began to wane and the length of a stagecoach trip declined. Finally in 1869 at Promontory, Utah, the

Golden Spike, which joined the rails of the Transcontinental Railroad, ended Wells Fargo's overland stageline. With that one final spike, people and commerce could now travel from New York to San Francisco in two days in the relative comfort of a smooth traveling train.

With the coming of these railroads, Wells Fargo began to change its stage operations, restricting itself to running feeder coach lines, adjusting to the railroad era it spread across the United States. In 1888 it had a direct rail route to New York City. As the railroads expanded through the far west, the firm provided security cars on which bullion and other valuables were transported for many of the lines.

Wells Fargo & Co. Express stock dropped to \$13 per share, but Wells Fargo adapted and stagecoaches continued rolling wherever the railroads did not, taking commerce, people and the mail to and from the nation's new central hubs, which is what the railroads were to become. The express services were still viable as they created north/south routes and served these outlying areas that the trains did not serve.

Wells Fargo 1908
St. Gaudens \$20
Nevada gold coin



On January 10, 1870 Wells Fargo delivered coinage dies from Philadelphia, the first ever bearing the "CC" mintmark.



Wells Fargo \$5
San Francisco National
Banknote



Wells Fargo also developed refrigeration, rail cars, which were a great boon to the cattle and seafood industries, opening up larger markets to many different types of perishable foods.

It was in 1905 that Wells Fargo Bank, headquartered in San Francisco, separated from the express business. In 1918 the Express Service portion of Wells Fargo merged with the American Railroad Express Company.

The beginning of government parcel post delivery in 1912 crippled the express business... and in 1918 the Wells Fargo Express officers and other express carriers became part of the American Railway Express.

Wells Fargo Banking Co. merged its interests with the Union Trust Company in 1923, which still exists and continues today to serve in the banking and financial services under the Wells Fargo name.

The bank formed a one-bank holding company, Wells Fargo and Company in 1968. Today, after mergers with American Trust Company in 1960 and Crocker Bank in 1986, Wells Fargo is a major California bank.



Wells Fargo & Company
150th Anniversary Medal

Wells Fargo & Co.
1852 - 2002



The Northwest Territorial Mint in Auburn, Washington produced a series of medals in 2002 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Wells Fargo & Co. This medal depicting the stagecoach line is service on the obverse. Bronze, antique, silver & gold.



Wells Fargo & Co.

1902 H+K 296 so-called Dollar.

An attractive token that is rough around the edges.

Obv. shows a picture of a stagecoach scene with gunfighters and pictorial of an Indian and cowboy.



Wells Fargo
Souvenir medal
made by
Nevada City Mint

For Wells Fargo and the west as a whole, the demise of the stagecoach was a sign that the pioneering era was coming to a close. The company survived, but its romantic heyday had ended!

[Sources: Wells Fargo Museum, various internet sites and book "Story of the Great American West"].

* * *

Celebrating in Columbus

By Tom Casper # 982

Columbus, Ohio was the site of the 67th Anniversary Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society show. It ran from April 27-29th and was a major success with more than 1,800 attendees.

The sold-out bourse was filled with 275 booths with major dealers from all over the U.S. The show started on Wednesday, with the PNG Day. Two huge auctions were held in conjunction with the show. Currency Auctions of America had a 3,227 lot auction. Heritage Auction Galleries had a 5,437 lot auction, which included ultra rare 1792 half dime, the finest known specimen. It was graded SP67 by PCGS and hammered down at \$1,322,500.

Besides the busy bourse area, there were many meetings and educational talks going on to keep the attendees busy. The talks included The State Bank of Ohio-Midwest Titan by Wendell Wolka, Where is the ANA Going, Why Are We Changing and What Does it Mean to You by Executive Director, Christopher Cipoletti. The Liberty Seated Collectors Club, Society of Paper Money Collectors, So-Called Dollar Collectors Club and the Encased Collector International held meetings during the show.

The Young Numismatists auction was held on Saturday and was attended by about 20 youths. Heritage Auction Galleries donated \$2,000 worth of merchandise for the event. Each youth received \$200 worth of play money to bid on the various lots. Everyone in attendance received a Red Book and in addition to the auction, five \$20 bills were raffled off along with two gold coins.

Numerous Milwaukee Numismatic Society members attended the show and contributed to the 185 cases of educational exhibits on display. The following members displayed one or more exhibits at the show – Ellery

Kretlow and his son, Nick; Bruce Benoit and his son, Nolan; Karen Jach; John and Nancy Wilson, Neil Shafer and myself.

Bruce won two third place awards and the Most Educational Award. Neil won a first place and I won a first and second place award.

Two MNS members joined the ranks of the Central States Board. At the Awards Breakfast on Saturday morning, Bruce Benoit and Karen Jach were sworn in and installed as Governors for a 2-year term.

Next year the CSNS show will be held in St. Louis, Missouri. I hope some of our members will consider making this trip to attend this professionally run show, which is probably one of the five top ranked shows in the country.

* * *

Coin Collector Turns Passion Into Wealth

[Desert Sun newspaper article submitted by Gene Johnson]

Three years ago Steve Contursi of Leguna Beach, CA bought a 1794 silver dollar, believed to be the first minted in the U.S. In case it's stolen or lost, he insured the coin for \$10 million. Last year, Contursi paid \$3 million for the Brasher Doubloon, the first gold coin minted in the U.S. and in a separate purchase, \$8.5 million for a 10-coin set that President Jackson gave to the king of Siam in 1836.

His newest deal is selling a stash of rare cash: 3,600 U.S. \$1 bills and Italian 1,000-lire notes salvaged from the safe in the Andrea Doria, a cruise ship that sank in the Atlantic 50 years ago.

"My success in life was created by having a passion", said Contursi, 53, owner of Rare Coin Wholesalers in Dana Point, CA, which traded \$50 million in coins and currency last year. As a 7-year old kid, he already had a

passion for collecting coins and scrounged for pennies to fill a Whitman coin album. Contursi enrolled in a Ph.D. program in physics at the University of Minnesota, moonlighting in a coin shop to pay for graduate school. He learned early that he could use his passion to create wealth. Instead of earning his doctorate, he bought the coin shop. His passion and block-buster deals made him one of the best-known figures in America's \$15 billion industry in collectible coins and currency.

What's lesser known is that Contursi is part of a network of traders, graders and collectors who helped turn Orange County and Los Angeles into America's coin industry capital.

Integral to the marketplace is Professional Coin Grading Services in Newport Beach, one of the largest coin appraisers and authenticators. Last year the company put its seal of approval on 1.6 million rare coins worth about \$1 billion.

Jeff Howard, 27, authenticates up to 1,200 rare coins a day. He handles each piece by its edges, peering under a lamplight above a black velvet mat, examining the surfaces like a crime-scene investigator for wear, nicks and chemical damage. "This hasn't been overly cleaned or tampered with, but it appears to have bumped with other coins" he said of a gold dollar coin.

Founded in 1986, Professional Coin was the nation's first systematic grader, using a scale of 1 to 70 to give traders a common yardstick to value their goods. Howard gave the gold coin a 66. "We do what Standard & Poor's and Moody's do" said Michael Haynes, CEO of Collectors Universe, the Newport Beach parent of Professional Coin Grading. "With that information, the marketplace knows how to set the price."

The price-setting occurs through the Certified Coin Exchange, an online marketplace established in 1990 that Collectors Universe acquired in a \$2 million deal last year. Subscribers can get up-to-the-minute prices for

every type of currency from a half penny to American Eagle bullion.

"There's a tremendous amount of information that wasn't available 10, 20 30 years ago", said Steve Deeds, president of Bowers and Merena, an Irvine company that traded \$40 million in coins last year in live auctions. Despite the advent of online trading, much of the coin business still occurs face to face. Deeds claims "this part of California is the Coin Capitol of the U.S. because there's a high concentration of people with a high net worth in California who can afford to collect."

During the past 5 years, coins, like gold, have appreciated faster than stocks or other investments. but the coin collecting industry has not been trouble free. A bubble fueled by Wall Street speculators popped in the late 1980s, sinking enthusiasm in coins for years. Last year, a scandal called "coingate" rocked Ohio politics when a Republican Party fundraiser and coin company operator lost millions of dollars through unscrupulous investments of the state's workers' compensation fund in rare coins. The scandal meant more business for a sister company of Bowers and Merena, Irvine coin wholesaler, Spectrum Numismatics, which recently inked a \$7.5 million contract to buy part of the "coingate" inventory.

Contrusi turned his hobby into a profession. His personal collection is his privately held company's \$30 million inventory, which he trades to support himself and 16 employees.

In 1981 divers recovered the Andrea Doria's safe, anticipating a treasure of jewels. Instead, they found only the bursar's cash, tattered and faded after decades underwater. Contrusi hasn't decided on a price yet and says "these are the last remaining mementos of a historic event. Once they're gone, they're gone!"

* * *

A Hoard of Fankhauser Encased Cents

[This article was written by Bruce W. Smith and submitted by Jerry Binsfeld, editor of "The Casement" Official Publication of the Associated Collectors of Encased (ACE).

In 1985 or 1986 I purchased 8,765 encased cents from coin dealer Neil Sowards (A to Z Coins in Fort Wayne, Indiana). All of the pieces were brilliant uncirculated with dates ranging from 1948 through 1964. Neil had obtained these at some earlier time directly from Earl Fankhauser, who had the encasements made. Neil had been selling these encased cents in lots of 100 through his pricelist. In 1979 or 1980, I had seen buckets full of the encased cents in his basement and had the impression that he hadn't sold very many of them. Several years later, after I had moved from Fort Wayne to St. Louis, I thought I might have better luck at selling them than Neil had and inquired how many he had and how much he wanted for the lot. We settled on a price of 4¢ each which seemed a fair price then because they were modern and there wasn't much demand.

Having so many pieces from one "maker", I saw a unique opportunity to establish a rough rarity guide for the Fankhauser encased cents. Apparently these encasements included a few samples kept for reference (in case of future orders), some entire issues kept due to errors (such as wrong addresses or phone numbers), and perhaps some entire issues which were never paid for. I sorted all the pieces and made an inventory. There were 124 different issues in the lot (not including different dates). I decided to attempt a catalog of Fankhauser encasements and asked for help from members of TAMS and ATCO. A number of people responded and the list expanded to over 200 different issues, many of which were mavericks (place of issue not stated). Many of these mavericks were eventually attributed through the efforts of George Courtesis, a native of Ft.



Wayne, who checked city directories and telephone directories.

Shortly after I bought the lot. I sold half of it to another St. Louis coin dealer, Bill Armstrong. Then in December 1986, I sold my

entire coin and token stock to a California dealer. In 1987 I wrote a brief article on the Fankhauser encasements and appended the catalog of 200 different issues. I sent this article to the editor of the TAMS Journal, but in the summer of 1988 I went to China for a year and forgot all about the article. In June 1989 I left China unexpectedly because of the Tiananmen Massacre, and as a result, bounced around the country for seven years. During that time all my books and reference materials were in storage in St. Louis. In the early 1990s I attended a TAMS meeting where the editor of the journal made a plea for articles. I asked him about my article which had been submitted a few years earlier. He said that he had postponed its publication because Bryan Ricker was preparing a more extensive listing (over 600 different). However, Ricker had not submitted his article yet, so my article was published in the TAMS Journal. I remembered at that time I had prepared an inventory with quantities, but it was in storage in St. Louis with the rest of my belongings.

In December 1994 I moved to Sheboygan, Wisconsin and afterwards rented a moving truck, went to St. Louis and retrieved my books and other belongings. For two more years the books remained packed in more than 200 boxes because I didn't have room to put them out. In November 1996 I bought a house in Sheboygan and finally unpacked what was now 500 boxes of books. Among the 10,000 or so books in my reference

library, I found an envelope containing the Fankhauser inventory that I prepared a decade earlier.

It's not entirely clear what the quantities mean. Where a dozen or less were found, these were probably retained samples. Quantities around 100 probably were overruns -- either produced to cover any defective pieces or perhaps deliberately produced to later be sold. Quantities over 200 were probably never distributed for some reason. This being so, the small quantities tell us nothing about how many were originally produced, but may give an idea of how many uncirculated pieces remain. The large numbers over 200, may indicate approximately how many were originally produced, and indicate how many uncirculated pieces exist. Quantities in between 12 to 200 pieces are something of a problem. About all we can say for certain is that the numbers indicate a minimum of how many uncirculated pieces exist today.

As I recall the condition of the 1948 and 1949 encasements were not as nice as the later issues, probably due to nearly 40 years of poor handling. The largest quantity in the hoard (1,809 pieces) is for the "Kennedy In Memoriam" encasement, which tends to bring a higher price than most other Fankhauser pieces. Of course, no one until now knew how common that piece is... even in uncirculated condition.

Here is a sample of the Fankhauser Inventory

	<u>No. Pieces</u>
1. American Security Life	71
2. Amitin's Book Shop	49
3. Anthony Wayne Bank	75
4. Leo Aubin (Canadian Exchange)	81
5. Ball Shop	--
6. Brateman Bros. (clothing)	36
7. Civil War Centennial	82
8. Cock & Bull Tavern	1
9. Coin Den	45
10. Coins & Currency	1
11. Virginia Culver (tokens)	281
12. Gold Leaf Tobacco Farm	14

13 Virginia Culver (Tokens)	14
14 Island Coin Exchange (Hawaii)	15
15 In Memoriam - Kennedy	1809
16 Coins & Currency	1
17 Ray Holmes 1964	37
18 Brateman Bros. (clothing)	36
19 Motor City Coins	320
20 W.W. Wigner (coins)	--

This hoard contained these categories:

Auto	7 different
Barbers & Pharmacy	4 different
Canada	6 different
Coin Dealers	43 different
Idaho	4 different
Illinois	4 different
Indiana	37 different
Michigan	7 different
Ohio	6 different

States:	17 different
AZ CA FL HI IL IN MI MO NY	
OH OR TN TX VT WA WV WI	

For a complete listing of these encased coins, or for information about the Associated Collectors of America, contact Jerry Binsfeld, Editor, at P.O. Box 580191, Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158.

* * *

Shell Money continued from p. 13

Island people rarely got the good shells which the coast dwellers liked to keep for themselves. They used them mostly for ornaments and you can sometimes tell a necklace from across the mountains by the small and broken shells.

There were regular routes by which shells, canoes and other imported goods came down the coast. The Nootka and other sea goers from further north would come as far as Makah, at the northwest tip of Washington. They brought dentalium, slaves, dogfish oil, carved dishes and the big handsome canoes, their edges inlaid with shells.

The Peacemaker

by Gene Johnson #105 L

For a little historic quiz... who do you remember as the most famous University of Wisconsin attender? Crazy Legs Hirsch?... Fighting Bob LaFollett?... William Proxmire? or maybe "Tail Gunner" Joseph McCarthy?

Perhaps the checklist herein omits your opinion choice, but back in 1927, midwest dare devil/hero Charles Lindburgh was the hands-down winner.

Out on the leading edge in the primitive years of air flight and parachute usage, the wing walking barnstormer was on the ground floor in airmail service and war plane technology, as well as being the daddy of today's airbus service flights that we take for granted. Lindbergh was a founder of Trans World Airlines (TWA).

Enigmatic and genius intelligent, the handsome young Lindbergh spent two years at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, and then left an engineering career to pursue aircraft flight training. Daring, self-taught and trained, (who was there to train him?) Even today this man defies social description and categoric definition.

Made incredibly famous by his non-stop solo flight from America to Paris, France, he was driven from his native land by a crazed media, and he and his family sought refuge in Europe.

His desire for world peace, and outspoken abhorrence of war made him an American pariah in a time when Germany sought world



*Charles A. Lindburgh
"Our Hero" aluminum Token*

domination under Adolph Hitler. It's interesting that Lindbergh's most harsh condemnation came from one of the nation's greatest presidents, Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Ironically, it was from a small airfield on Long Island called "Roosevelt Field" that the aviator had began his world renowned flight to Paris, about 12 years earlier.

The scarce little Charms Candy token remembers his historic flight.

*25 Charms Coin
First ocean
non-stop flight
New York-Paris
May 1927*



Only a man of the military could clearly see Charles Lindbergh as the peacemaker, and it was President Dwight D. Eisenhower who lifted the aviator's stigma, and at the time of his death in 1974, Lindbergh was again loved, revered, and seen in a light that was uncluttered by politics.

1927 is so very long ago, but Lindbergh's little hand-built plane, the "Spirit of St. Louis" still hangs in honor in the Smithsonian Museum remembering the flight.

Charles Lindbergh's role as peacemaker and far sighted social vision were not deeply explored prior to his death, and the school children of today touch so very lightly on our nation's 19th century history.

Social and historic events in medicine, science, ecology and globalism, are multiplying so very rapidly that there's little time for a backward glance at an individual peacemaker's feats of heroism.

Once upon a time Reader's Digest magazine had a reader-fed story line called, "The Most Unforgettable Character I've Ever Met". Had we the opportunity to meet and know the man Lindburgh, surely he would be such a person.

Just how many more years Lindburgh's "Spirit of St. Louis" will hang in the Smithsonian before being replaced by another more recent artifact is an interesting question.

The poet Tilton once wrote "fame is but a slow decay, even this shall pass away."

* * *



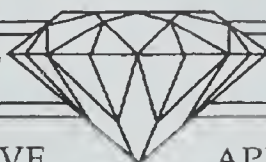
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Antioch, IL Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 3rd Monday of each month at Antioch Library, 757 Main St, Antioch, IL. Contact: James Koutsoures 847-395-0599.

Barron County Coin Club

Meets at 8:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the School Administration Bldg., 700 Augusta St., Rice Lake. Contact Barron County Coin Club, P.O. Box 256, Chetek, WI 54728.

Chippewa Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 1st Thursday of each month in basement of Parks Rec. Bldg., 1300 1st Ave. in Eau Claire. E-mail 54701.com/coinclub or PO Box 2140 Eau Claire, WI 54702.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

Meets the 3rd Thursday (April-October); at the Siren Sr. Center, 23943 State Road 35, Siren, 7:00 traders; 8:00 business meeting. Contact Gary Schauls, 2702 150th St., Luck, WI 54853-3811. Ph. 715-472-2002.

Fond du Lac Coin Club

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday (May thru Sept.) at the Senior Center East 2nd Street in Fond du Lac. Contact Fond du Lac Coin Club, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Fox Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Prime Time Club, 11150 Valley Road, Menasha.

Kenosha Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Thursday of each month (except July & August) at 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha. Contact: Jerry Binsfeld 262-657-4653.

Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Silverbrook Middle School, 120 N. Silverbrook Drive in West Bend. Youth meeting at 6:30. Contact: Dave Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

Lake County Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Warren Township Library, O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL. Contact: Leslie Hanulla 847-662-1955.

Lakeland Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 6:45 the first and third Thursday of each month at Lakeland Senior Center, Woodruff, WI. Contact Paul Engwall 715-358-5400.

Madison Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Monday of each month at Zimbrick Buick, 1601 W. Beltine Hwy. at Fish Hatchery intersection. Contact Tom Galway. Phone 608-238-1722.

Manitowoc Coin Club

No regular monthly meetings. An annual coin show is held in February. Contact Al Hrudka 920-775-4979.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:00 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mayfair Mall Community Room, 2500 N. Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa (use #2 entrance, east side of mall). Contact Bruce Benoit, PO Box 210064, Milwaukee, 53221. Phone: 414-282-8128.

Nicolet Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at Stein Supper Club, 126 S. Adams in Green Bay.

Northwoods Stamp & Coin Club

Contact the club at P.O. Box 126, Rhineland, WI 54501.

Ozaukee Coin Club

Meets the 2nd Thursday at the Rose Harms Legion Post, 1540 13th Ave. in Grafton. (Youth mtg. 6:30; General mtg. 7:00. Contact Ozaukee Coin Club, P.O. Box 832, Cedarburg, WI 53012.

Racine Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday at Castlewood Restaurant in Racine. Contact George Conrad 266-634-0833.

Rockford Area Coin Club

Contact: Rockford Area Coin Club, c/o Darrell Schultz, P.O. Box 294, Cherry Valley, IL 61016.

Sheboygan Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 every other Tuesday at Maple Lanes, 3107 S. Business Dr., in Sheboygan. Contact Sheboygan Coin Club, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

South Shore Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Roman's Parish Office, 1710 W. Bolivar Ave. in Milwaukee. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966.

Waukesha Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Waukesha Salvation Army offices at 445 Madison St., Waukesha. Contact Forrest Schumacher, 2300 Avalon Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186.

Wisconsin Dells Area Numismatic Group

Meets the 4th Sunday of each month at Chula Vista Resort, Wis. Dells. 6:30 social hour; 7:00 presentation. Contact Joe Kaminski 608-254-7908.

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Liberty Bell Coin Shop, 130 N. 3rd Ave., Wausau. Contact Thad Streeter, 715-355-5437.



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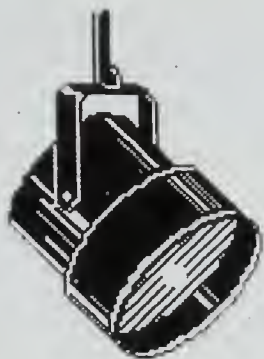


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Please send information on your upcoming show to the NOW News Editor, PO Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, hours, number of tables and your show/bourse chairman's name, address and phone.

June 10, 2006 - Rice Lake

Barron County Coin Show at Cedar Mall, 2900 S. Main St., Rice Lake. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chair. Sue Peterson, P.O. Box 362, Rice Lake, WI 54868.

June 17, 2006 - Rhinelander

Northwoods Annual Coin & Stamp 25th Annual Show at James Williams Middle School, 915 Acacia Lane, Rhinelander. Hours: 9-5 p.m. 30-36 tables. Contact Larry Marten, 3295 Hancock Lake Rd., Harshaw, WI 54529 Phone 715-277-2692. .

June 22-25, 2006 - Rosemont, IL

25th Annual MidAmerica Coin Expo at Donald Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, IL. Contact Kevin Foley, 414-421-3484.

July 2, 2006 - Green Bay

Green Bay Coin & Stamp Show at East Town Mall, 2350 E. Mason St. Ph. 920-429-0101.

July 8, 2006 - Minocqua

Lakeland Coin & Stamp Show at the Lakeland High School, Hwy. 70 west of Minoqua. Hours: 9-3 p.m. Bourse Chm. Jerry Jaeger 7651 W. Kaubashine Rd., Hazelhurst, WI 54531. Call Chamber of Commerce 1-800-44north for information.

August 5, 2006 - Siren

Fishbol Wooden Nickel Coin Show at the Siren Senior Center, 23943 State Rd. 35, Siren. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chair: Laverna Peterson, PO Box 108, Frederic, WI 54837.

August 16-19, 2006 - Denver CO

American Numismatic Assoc 115th Anniversary Convention. Contact ANA Convention Center Phone: 719-632-2646.

August 27, 2006 - Fond du Lac

Fond du Lac Coin Show at the Holiday Inn, 625 W. Rolling Meadows Drive, Fond du Lac. Hours: 9-4 pm. Bourse Chm. Randy Miller, Phone: 920-231-6161.

September 7-10, 2006 - ILNA

IL Numismatic Assoc. State Coin Show, Countryside, IL Ph. 815-432-4636.

September 17, 2006 - Rockford, IL

Rockford Area Coin Show. Rockford, IL

October 1, 2006 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's 71st Coin Show at the American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chm. Dave Hunsicker, 248 S. 7th Ave., West Bend, WI 53095-3221. Phone 262-338-6064

October 13-15, 2006 - MOON

Minnesota Organization of Numismatics (MOON) Annual Coin Show at Earle Brown Heritage Ctr. 6155 Earle Brown Dr., Brooklyn Center, MN. Contact Jay Darby 507-202-3390.

2006 - NOW (cancelled)

NOW General Membership Meeting will be held during Fond du Lac coin show August 27.

October 15, 2006 - Cedarburg

Ozaukee Coin Show at Circle B Recreation, Hwy. 60 and I, Cedarburg. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 40 tables. Contact: John Helm c/o Ozaukee Coin Club, PO Box 832, Cedarburg, WI 53012. Ph. 262-376-9503.

October 15, 2006 - Racine

American Vets Coin & Stamp Show at Memorial Hall. Hours: 9-3 p.m.

October 28, 2006 - Sheboygan Falls

Sheboygan Coin Show at Sheboygan Falls Municipal Hall, 375 Buffalo Street, Sheboygan Falls, WI. Hours: 9-4 p.m., 40 tables. Contact: Ed Rautmann, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53082. Ph. 920-893-5874.

November 5, 2006 - Madison

Madison Area Fall Coin Show at Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nolen Drive, Madison. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 50+ tables. Show Chm. John Krueger. Ph: 608-834-4100.

November 11, 2006 - Green Bay

Green Bay Coin & Stamp Show at East Town Mall, 2350 E. Mason St. Contact: Troy Leanna
Phone 920-429-0101.

November 12, 2006 - Springfield, IL

Central Illinois Numismatic Association's Annual Fall Show at Northfield Center I. Contact Steve Butler
217-528-7634.

February 11, 2007 - Manitowoc

Manitowoc Coin Show at Club Bil-Mar, 3627 Cty. Hwy. CR, Manitowoc.
Contact Al Hrudka 920-775-4979.

February 18, 2007 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 24th Annual Coin Show. Contact Numismatic Research Society, P.O. Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

February 25, 2007 - Racine

Racine Numismatic Society's spring show.

March 8-11, 2007 - Rosemont IL

Chicago Paper Money Expo. Contact Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

March 11, 2007 - Brookfield

Waukesha Coin Club's 38th Annual Coin Show at American Legion Hall, 3245 N. 124th St. Brookfield.
Contact Forrest Schumacher Ph: 262-542-3934.

March 23-25, 2007 - ANA

ANA National Money Show in Sacramento, CA.

March 29-31, 2007 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Club's 43rd annual show at the Four Points Sheridan, Milwaukee.

April 1, 2007 - Appleton

Fox Valley Coin Club's 52nd Annual Spring Coin Show at Wave Bar & Ballroom, 2350 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton (near Fox Cities Stadium). Hours: 9-4 p.m. 40 tables. Show Chm. James Bayer, PO Box 1981, Appleton, WI 54912-1981. Ph. 920-739-1089.

April 25-29, 2007 - Rosemont IL

Chicago International Coin Fair. Contact Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

May 6, 2007 - Green Bay

Nicolet Coin Club's Spring Show at Comfort Suites/ Rock Garden, 1951 Bond St., Green Bay. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 39 tables. Bourse Chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313. Ph. 920-499-7035.

May 9-12, 2007 - Central States

CSNS at St. Louis, MO. Contact Jerry Lebo 574-753-2489.

2007 - NOW

Numismatists of Wisconsin's 47th Annual Show hosted by Madison Coin Club. (date to be announced).

August 8-12, 2007 - ANA

American Numismatic Association's 116th Anniversary Convention in Milwaukee, Wis. For information contact ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

October 7, 2007 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's 72nd coin show at the American Surb Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 64 Tables. Chm. Dave Hunsicker, 1248 S. 7th Ave. West Bend, WI.

November 23-25, 2007 - Dearborn, MI

Michigan State Numismatic Society's 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving Convention at Hyatt Regency Hotel, 1 Fairlane Dr. Contact: Don Charters 734-721-4991.

February 17, 2008 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 25th Anniversary Coin Show. Contact Numismatic Research Society, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

April 26-29, 2008 - Central States

CSNS Convention at Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, IL. Bourse contact: Jerry Lebo, 574-753-2489; e-mail: lebo@clss.net.

July 30-Aug. 3, 2008 - ANA

117th Anniversary American Numismatic Assoc. Convention in Baltimore, MD. Contact ANA convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

August 20-24, 2008 - ANA

St. Louis, MO.

April 29-May 2, 2009 - Central States

70th Anniversary CSNS Convention at Cynergy Center, Cincinnati OH. Contact Jerry Lebo 574-753-2489.

2010 - Central States

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